

REMARKS

The present application is a Rule 114 Request for Continued Examination (RCE) of parent application Serial No. 10/766,586.

In an amendment after final filed September 15, 2005, applicants amended the claims and presented arguments traversing the prior art rejections set forth in the May 18, 2005 final Office Action. In an Advisory Action dated October 17, 2005, the Examiner denied entry of the amendment after final as raising new issues requiring further search and consideration. The present RCE is being filed to obtain entry of the September 15 amendment after final.

Applicants also submit herewith a preliminary amendment for consideration by the Examiner. In the preliminary amendment, new claims 21-26 have been added to cover the subject matter of canceled claims 3, 5, 6, 7, 11 and 12, respectively, in the parent application.

New claims 3, 5, 6, 7 and 11-12 depend on and contain all of the limitations of independent claims 4 and 10, respectively, and, therefore, distinguish from the prior art of record at least in the same manner as claims 4 and 10 as set forth in the September 15 amendment after final.

Early and favorable action on the merits are most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

ADAMS & WILKS
Attorneys for Applicants

By: 

Bruce L. Adams
Reg. No. 25,386

17 Battery Place
Suite 1231
New York, NY 10004
(212) 809-3700

MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS FEE AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Debra Buonincontri

Name



Signature

OCTOBER 18, 2005

Date